

Application No.: 09/899686

Case No.: 56345US002

Remarks**Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner indicated that claims 66-73, 80 and 85 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

Claims 23-27, 32, 37, 42, 47, 52, 66-79, 81-84 and 86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. The Examiner stated that this rejection may be overcome by adding to independent claims 23 and 81 polymer limitation or composition such as those polymer compositions found in dependent claims 69 and 70.

Claims 69 and 70 are dependent on Claim 66, which is dependent on Claim 23. Although the Applicant does not necessarily agree with the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections at hand, in the interests of expediting the case, Claim 66 has been amended to independent form by incorporating therein of Claim 23 and claims 69 and 70.

Since claims 80 and 85 were not rejected on the basis of 35 U.S.C. 112, nor subject to any other rejection set forth in the Office Action, it assumed that the Examiner intended to allow claims 80 and 85.

Several dependent claims have been amended to depend from amended Claim 66 or Claim 80.

Claim Objection

The Examiner indicated that claim 79 was meant to depend from claim 74 and not claim 23 as written.

In view of the amendment to claim 79, this objection is now moot.

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35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 23-27, 32, 47, 74, 76, 79 and 81-83 are rejected under 25 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Golumbic.

In view of the cancellation or amendment of such claims, this rejection is now moot.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 32, 37, 42, 47, 52, 84 and 86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fleming in view of Golumbic.

In view of the cancellation or amendment of such claims, this rejection is now moot.

The Applicant has addressed all the rejections set forth by the Examiner. A timely allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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